

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

OMB-01 AF-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 AID-05 /088 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/LA:GEBROWN:BT

APPROVED BY ARA/LA:WLUERS

EUR/SOV:- RMILES

S/NM: - SVANCE

IO:- EPNOZIGLIA

ARA/MEX:- JKEANE

DEA:- DMILLER

----- 083306

P 282130Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENCY OF COMMISSION NARCOTIC DRUGS

REF: (A) MEXICO 2550; (B) BANGKOK 4981

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. IN CONVERSATIONS IN GENEVA IN FEBUARY THE GOM SEEMED FIRMLY COMMITTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL TO SEEK CND PRESIDENCY FOR OJEDA PAULLADA. WE HAVE HAD NO SUBSEQUENT INDICATIONS OF ANY CHANGE IN THAT POSITION. WE ASSUME GOM KNOWS OJEDA'S CANDIDACY IS CONTRARY TO LONG ESTABLISHED RULES OF CND AND WILL BE OPPOSED STRENOUSLY BY GREAT MAJORITY OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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MEMBERS AND ALL OF THE CND BUREAU. (CERTAINLY BARONA LOBATO WAS AWARE OF THIS OPPOSITION).

2. THE GOM WILL EXPECT OUR SUPPORT AND CAN MAKE A STRONG

CLAIM FOR IT:

- (A) OJEDA IS OBVIOUSLY QUALIFIED
- (B) MEXICO WAS NEXT IN LINE FOR PRESIDENCY AND WOULD HAVE HAD IT BUT FOR CASTRO Y CASTRO'S ABSENCE FROM GENEVA DUE TO ILLNESS.
- (C) MEXICO IS KEY TO OUR HOPE OF REDUCING HEROIN IN U.S.
- (D) OJEDA'S COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR NARCOTICS OBJECTIVES IN MEXICO, AND VANCE AND BARTELS WILL SOON BE ASKING HIM TO INCREASE HIS EFFORT THERE.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN, BABAYAN, IS THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS GOVERNMENT FULLY EXPECTS HIM TO TAKE HIS "RIGHTFUL" TURN AS PRESIDENT IN ACCORD WITH CND RULES. THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE WITH US IN THE CND; IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE COMPLICATION OF OJEDA'S CANDIDACY WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE BABAYAN AS PRESIDENT. TO TRY SERIOUSLY TO BLOCK HIM FROM THE PRESIDENCY WOULD NOT ONLY MAKE HIM FURIOUS BUT MIGHT IRRITATE HIS GOVERNMENT. ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR OJEDA WOULD ALSO IRRITATE THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CND WHICH IS COUNTER TO OUR CONTINUING NEED FOR CND SUPPORT FOR OUR POLICY GOALS IN NARCOTICS FIELD.

4. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH OJEDA TO DETERMINE, FIRST, IF HE IS STILL SEEKING THE PRESIDENCY. IF SO, YOU MAY ASSURE HIM THAT WE WILL NOT OPPOSE HIM BUT, HE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WE SEE NO CHANCE OF HIS WINNING, AND FOR REASONS STATED ABOVE WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CAMPAIGN FOR HIM.

5. PLEASE ASSURE OJEDA OF OUR HIGH ESTEEM IN EXPLAINING THAT IF IT WERE NOT FOR OTHER OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE HIM AS PRESIDENT. IF THE GOM IS ABLE TO WORK OUT SOME ACCOMODATION WITH THE SOVIETS

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TO ALLOW OJEDA TO TAKE BABAYAN'S TURN WE COULD THEN OPENLY ENDORSE OJEDA AND ACTIVELY SUPPORT HIM.

6. WE HOPE THIS MATTER CAN BE SETTLED WITH OJEDA BEFORE VANCE AND BARTELS SEE HIM IN MAY. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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